

OFFICIAL COPY

I. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Scituate Conservation Commission was held on Tuesday, February 13, 2007, and was called to order at 7:09 P.M. It was held in the School Department Meeting Room, Scituate Town Hall, 195 Danielson Pike, N. Scituate, Rhode Island.

II. ATTENDANCE:

Present: Thomas Angell, Paul Dolan, Ruth Strach, Cheryl Dexter, Jon Vernava and

Cynthia Gianfrancesco and Tammy Bottella

Absent:

Guests: Christopher Modisette

III. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Dolan moved to accept the January 9, 2007 secretary's report as amended, seconded by Jon Vernava. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR:

The financial report has stayed the same. There were no deductions other than the secretary's salary.

Ms. Strach moved to pay the Northern Rhode Island Conservation District in the amount of \$300.00 for the Neighbor-to-Neighbor mailings, seconded by Ms. Gianfrancesco. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The proposed budget for F/Y 2007/2008 is in the amount of \$13,800.00 with a separate line item for Lawton Farm in the amount of \$1,000.00.

V. COMMITTEES:

Property:

Funds from the Conservation and Land Trust budget have been encumbered in the total amount of \$10,000.00. Once the purchase and sales agreement has been signed the fund will be paid to the property owners on Old Plainfield Pike for the development rights.

There are several parties interested in speaking with the town in regards to selling their development rights to preserve their land.

It was noted that the U.S.D.A. might have funds to have the wetlands flagged at Lawton Farm. Mr. Dolan moved that Mr. Theodore Hopkins

Ill do some invasive species and brush control at Lawton Farm, not to exceed 60 hours at \$50.00 per hour, seconded by Ms. Bottella. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Outreach:

There will be a list of dates completed by the annual meeting for upcoming events and walks. These will be on the back of the Annual Meeting Agenda.

Annual Meeting:

Mr. Robert Thorson a professor of geology at the University of Connecticut will be the speaker at the Annual Meeting. Also in attendance will be Sandy Maher who helped to implement the stonewall ordinance in the town of Smithfield. The meeting will be held at the Chopmist Center on Chopmist Hill Road on March 13, 2007 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Regulations and Ordinances:

Rhode Island Wastewater Regulations now include that all septic systems be maintained on an annual basis, there is a fee of \$99.00 for the town to become a user. This includes information on new installations and maintenance. All of the information will be put on a data base and updated periodically. Fifty percent of the homes in

Scituate currently have cesspools. Mr. Dolan moved for Scituate (which will be the fourth town in the state) to sign up for the \$99.00 fee and become part of the Rhode Island Wastewater Information System, seconded by Ms. Bottella. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

The Greenspace Project maps will be on display at the annual meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

Stewardship Program:

Ms. Gianfrancesco moved that the commission will be adopt a property stewardship program, seconded by Ms. Bottella. The volunteer Conservation monitors will assist the Commission and Land Trust in meeting basic stewardship goals at Commission/Land Trust properties across town by ensuring that lands are regularly visited and looked after. In undertaking Conservation monitoring duties, the monitor will conduct routine surveys of the property to which he/she is assigned and note visitor activities (authorized and unauthorized) property conditions and management needs. Monitors will report observations, problems and

management needs assessments to the Chair of the Conservation Commission Property Committee. It was noted that stewards should learn the boundaries of the properties they are responsible for. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE:

This topic was briefly discussed.

IX: ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Dolan moved to adjourn at 9:40 p.m., seconded by Ms. Strach. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

WITNESS:

Patricia M. Russo

Secretary